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**ALGERIA. 12 Feb.**—The arrest was announced of Ben Boulaid Mostefa ben Ahmed, said to be one of the principal leaders of the Aurès rebellion.

**AFGHANISTAN. 10 Feb.—China.** It was announced that Afghanistan and China had decided to exchange ambassadors.

**ARGENTINA. 10 Feb.—Anti-Catholic Measure.** It was learnt that the Government had issued writs through the Ministry of Education dismissing 101 Roman Catholic priests engaged in teaching in federal primary schools. Many teaching nuns had also been dismissed.

**AUSTRALIA. 3 Feb.**—It was unofficially announced that the British and Australian Governments had concluded a gentleman's agreement under which Britain would buy more Australian primary produce in the spirit of the Ottawa agreement of 1932.

**11 Feb.—Labour Party Dispute.** Eight members of the Victorian central executive of the Labour Party, including the Victorian Premier Mr Cain, resigned as a result of a party split which had developed following the publication of allegations against the administration of the Victorian Labour Party by Dr Evatt, the Opposition leader.

**AUSTRIA. 5 Feb.—Mr Nalivaiko.** The deputy Soviet High Commissioner sent a Note to the United States Embassy protesting against an 'impudent and provocative attempt by American representatives to induce, by means of blackmail and threats', Mr Nalivaiko, Russian Consul in Vienna, 'to commit high treason'.

**6 Feb.**—The United States Embassy in a statement rejecting the Soviet charges, said that Mr Nalivaiko, while 'professing to be seeking political asylum', in fact 'served as a Soviet *agent provocateur*'. It claimed that the fact that the Soviet Information Service issued the text of the Note immediately after the incident and many hours before it was delivered to the U.S. Embassy 'alone indicates a carefully planned entrapment by the Russians'.

**7 Feb.**—The Russian authorities issued a statement claiming to have documentary evidence proving that the American version of the incident was false and that the attempt to persuade the Soviet Consul, Mr Nalivaiko, to 'commit high treason' had been carefully planned by the U.S. espionage service.

**8 Feb.**—The U.S. Embassy disclaimed all knowledge of the existence of the documents mentioned in the Russian statement.

**16 Feb.—Socialist Criticism of Russia.** A group of Socialists headed by Dr Pittermann, parliamentary leader of the party, submitted an interpellation which, after referring to the Supreme Soviet's recent message to all Parliaments in which it mentioned non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries as a basic principle of peaceful international relations, gave a long list of violations of this principle by the Soviet authorities in Austria, and asked the president of the Assembly

whether he was ready to make known to the Supreme Soviet that 'outside interference in the internal affairs of the country continued in Austria'.

**BRAZIL. 10 Feb.—U.S. Credit.** It was announced that Brazil had been granted by the U.S. Export-Import Bank a further credit of \$75 m. for a period of six months to finance imports from the United States.

**BRITISH GUIANA. 13 Feb.—People's Progressive Party.** The congress of the People's Progressive Party passed a motion of no confidence in the old executive, consisting of Dr and Mrs Jagan and their supporters, and elected a more moderate executive which included Dr Lachman Singh, Mr Forbes Burnham and Mr Jai Narain Singh.

**15 Feb.—**Dr and Mrs Jagan and their supporters refused to recognize the party's new general council, on the ground that its election was unconstitutional. Mrs Jagan, as general secretary, issued a statement announcing the expulsion of the three new leaders—Dr Lachman Singh, the chairman, Mr Forbes Burnham, and Mr Jai Narain Singh.

**16 Feb.—**Dr Lachman Singh issued a statement claiming that a special conference had power to alter party rules and saying that the changes of officials would be subject to the decision of the next annual congress fixed for 26 and 27 March.

**CANADA. 15 Feb.—Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference.** Mr St Laurent, Prime Minister, in a report to the House of Commons on the Prime Ministers' conference in London, said he thought one of the most valuable aspects was the opportunity of seeing through the eyes of trusted and like-minded associates how the world situation looked from entirely different parts of the globe. The point of view of the Asian Prime Ministers was of great interest and value. Sir Winston Churchill had given an unforgettable statement on nuclear energy. Views had been exchanged on the Far East situation but no blue print for collective action had been drawn up. There was common concern to avoid a conflict and to avoid disunity among the nations seeking peace. International tension and the search for peace dominated the discussions. Canada's position in relation to Formosa, he said, could not be final or inflexible.

**CHINA. 3 Feb.—Reply to United Nations.** Peking Radio broadcast the reply sent to the U.N. Secretary-General's invitation to Peking to send representatives to take part in the Security Council's discussion of the Far East situation. The reply said that the Government would send a representative only to discuss the Soviet resolution and only if the representative of Chiang Kai-shek were 'driven out' and replaced by the representative of the People's Republic. It said the source of tension in the Far East had always been the United States' aggression against China's territory of Taiwan (Formosa), and it alleged that after concluding the so-called mutual security treaty with Chiang Kai-shek and dispatching large naval and air forces to the area, the United States had

**China** (*continued*)

openly made war threats and provocations against China in preparation for an extension of aggression. The Government fully supported the Soviet resolution before the Security Council and considered that the United Nations should condemn the United States for its acts of aggression against China, and should call upon the United States immediately to stop its aggression and intervention in China's internal affairs and to withdraw all its armed forces from Taiwan and the Taiwan Straits.

The reply went on to say that Taiwan, the Penghu islands (Pescadores) and other coastal islands were all inalienable parts of China's territory, and it asserted that the United Nations' agreement to consider the New Zealand proposal to discuss the 'hostilities in the area of certain islands off the coast of the mainland of China' showed an intention to intervene in China's internal affairs and to cover up U.S. aggression against China, and was therefore a contravention of the U.N. Charter. The reply also protested that China should continue to be represented in the United Nations by the representatives of 'a small handful of the traitorous Chiang Kai-shek clique', and it asserted that any decisions taken in the Security Council concerning China without representatives of the People's Republic would be illegal. It ended by saying that the People's Republic would support all genuine international efforts to eliminate tension caused by the United States in this and other areas of the Far East.

**5 Feb.**—U.S. statement on evacuation of Tachen Islands (*see United States*).

U.S.—Communist air clash (*see United States*).

**7 Feb.**—Peking Radio spoke of 'continuous provocative activities' of American naval aircraft near Chinese waters since 23 January. It asserted that the Americans flew more than 2,200 sorties in nearly 500 groups up to 4 February. It also described the order to the U.S. fleet to assist the evacuation of the Tachens as a 'criminal act, and an infringement of Chinese sovereignty, as well as a grave threat to peace'.

**9 Feb.**—Shooting down of U.S. aircraft (*see Formosa*).

**Great Britain.** Peking Radio broadcast an attack on Sir Anthony Eden, taken from the *People's Daily*, for his statement of 4 February on the legal status of Formosa. The British Foreign Secretary was accused of slandering China and belittling her rights while encouraging the American policy of menacing Far East peace and aggravating tension.

**Military Regulations.** Regulations were promulgated providing for compulsory military service for officers and laying down the sources from which officers would be drawn. They also instituted ranks similar to those in the Soviet Army.

**10 Feb.**—Exchange of ambassadors with Afghanistan (*see Afghanistan*).

**11 Feb.**—The New China News Agency reported that four American aircraft 'entered China's territorial air space' off the north-east coast of China in an 'act of war provocation'. They flew away when approached by Chinese fighters.

**13 Feb.**—Mao Tse-tung, speaking at a Soviet reception on the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Sino-Soviet mutual defence pact, said that with the co-operation between their two great countries he was convinced that 'the aggressive plans of imperialism will be smashed. If the United States started a war of aggression' he declared, 'we, together with the people of the whole world, will certainly wipe them out clean from the surface of the globe'.

Mr Chou En-lai, Prime Minister, charged the United States with 'stepping up aggression and war provocations against the Chinese people in the area of Formosa' and warned the United States of the 'solid alliance with the great Soviet people'. He praised Russia for her 'all-round systematic and great assistance to the Chinese people', saying that it had enabled China, within five years, not only to complete economic rehabilitation but also to enter the stage of planned construction and to increase her economic and defensive power.

**Tachen Island.** Chinese Communist forces occupied the Tachen Islands, following the Chinese Nationalist evacuation which was completed twenty-four hours earlier.

**15 Feb.—Conscription Law.** The Government approved a new conscription law under which men between the ages of eighteen and forty became liable for military service, the periods of service being three years for Army enlisted men and N.C.O.'s, four years for the Air Force, and five years for the Navy.

#### COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS' CONFERENCE.

**4 Feb.—Pakistan.** The conference issued a declaration announcing that the Pakistan Government had informed the other Commonwealth Governments of its intention, under the new Constitution of Pakistan about to be adopted, of becoming a sovereign independent Republic, and also of its desire to continue full membership of the Commonwealth and to accept the Queen 'as the symbol of the free association of its independent member nations and as such the Head of the Commonwealth'. The other Commonwealth Governments had accepted Pakistan's continued membership. Mr Mohammed Ali had reaffirmed Pakistan's steadfast adherence to the Commonwealth, and all the Prime Ministers had declared that they remained 'united as free and equal members of the Commonwealth of Nations, freely co-operating in the pursuit of peace, liberty, and progress'.

**8 Feb.—Communiqué.** On the conclusion of the conference the Prime Ministers issued a communiqué. It recorded their resolve to do their utmost to ease the international strain and not only to bring any open hostilities to an end but also to promote conditions for peace and for the enjoyment of freedom and plenty. It welcomed the Trieste, Anglo-Egyptian and Anglo-Iranian agreements, also the end to hostilities in Indo-China, and stressed the need for strict adherence to the Geneva agreement. The Prime Ministers were informed that the Commonwealth countries associated with the North Atlantic Treaty were convinced that early ratification of the Paris agreements and the acceptance of Federal Germany into the western community of nations

**Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference** (*continued*)

would mark an important advance towards west European security and cohesion.

In discussing developments in the Far East, the Prime Ministers were united in their conviction that incidents should be avoided while means were sought for a peaceful outcome.

The Prime Ministers recognized that Commonwealth countries had substantially contributed to the improved outlook for world trade by maintaining the stability of their currencies, continuing their development programmes, and by expanding their production. They had also continued their progressive approach towards the widest practicable system of trade and payments. They agreed to continue these policies and to strive to develop further their resources and earning power.

The Prime Ministers gave earnest thought to problems of nuclear energy, reaffirmed that their countries would never embark upon aggression, and declared it to be their aim to continue to work for a comprehensive and effective disarmament agreement which would include forces and weapons of all kinds. They looked forward to the prospect of continued close co-operation between the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries in the development of atomic energy for civil uses. After referring to Pakistan's decision to become a republic, the Prime Ministers reaffirmed that their countries would remain united as free and equal members of the Commonwealth freely co-operating in the pursuit of peace, liberty, and progress. The communiqué went on to say that the Commonwealth was a unique association containing a fourth of the world's population, embracing people of many races and religions, and including countries of importance in all quarters of the globe. It derived its strength from this and from a common outlook which evoked a broadly similar response to most international problems. Its members pursued no selfish purpose, sought no aggrandisement, would always oppose aggression and in concert with all who shared their ideals would do their utmost to further the cause of peace.

**Defence.** A statement on defence discussions said that additional meetings had been held on regional defence problems covering the main areas in which Commonwealth forces might have to be deployed in the event of war. They had been attended by representatives of those countries whose forces might in war be operating in the particular area. The representatives concerned recognized that the advent of thermonuclear weapons involved fundamental changes in the strategic approach to defence problems. They agreed that the overwhelming superiority of the western Powers in nuclear weapons offered the most effective and practical assurance that peace would not be disturbed by any deliberate act of aggression, and they agreed that their defence policies should be founded on the principle that world war could be prevented if the free democracies were resolved to maintain sufficient strength to deter any potential aggressor. The representatives who took part in discussions on European defence welcomed the steps being taken to increase the



strength of N.A.T.O. forces by a west German military contribution. In regard to the Middle East, agreement was reached on the basis of a new approach to defence planning in that area. Discussion of south-east Asian defence problems covered plans to help countries of the area not only to resist aggression but also to strengthen their internal security. The four Commonwealth signatories of the Manila treaty reviewed progress in making the treaty an effective instrument for these purposes. In particular the security of Malaya, regarded by the U.K., Australian, and New Zealand Governments as of vital importance, was discussed and the strategic position of the area clarified. It was accepted that military plans must be concerted with other countries involved in the defence of the areas. The Commonwealth countries concerned also recognized the need for the closest association with the United States in all defence measures.

**CZECHOSLOVAKIA. 3 Feb.—Germany.** Prague Radio announced that the Czechoslovak Government had ended the state of war with Germany.

**DENMARK. 3 Feb.—Nordic Council *q.v.***

**11 Feb.—Rumania: Mr Cimbu.** Ion Cimbu, a chauffeur employed at the Rumanian Legation, approached the security police and asked for political asylum. He admitted having taken with him from the Legation 4,000 kroner (about £200) but handed the money over to the police. He said his wife wished also to seek asylum but they were not allowed to leave the Legation together as the Legation was suspicious of them. He was allowed to telephone her and arranged a meeting with her for the next day.

**12 Feb.—**Members of the Rumanian Legation staff attempted to abduct Mr Cimbu when he arrived at the rendezvous to meet his wife, but after a scuffle he was able to reach a police car.

**13 Feb.—**A spokesman of the Rumanian Legation said that Mrs Cimbu was not permitted to leave the building and that a theft of 6,000 kroner had been reported to the police.

**15 Feb.—**Mrs Maria Cimbu said at a press conference at the Legation in the presence of the Chargé d'Affaires that her husband had never asked her to run away with him, or told her that he himself would run away. If he had, she said, she would have killed him, because it would have been treason. Her only wish was now to go back to Rumania. She denied that she and her husband were not allowed to leave the Legation together.

The Rumanian Chargé d'Affaires received from the Foreign Office the 6,000 kroner which Mr Cimbu had taken. He told the press conference that he regarded the matter as a simple theft, and accused the Danish police of behaving like gangsters.

**16 Feb.—Rumanian Protest.** The Rumanian Government sent a Note to the Danish Government protesting against the shadowing of Rumanian Legation staff by the police and against the 'detention' of Mr Cimbu.

**EGYPT. 5 Feb.—Yugoslavia.** President Tito of Yugoslavia, returning through the Suez Canal from his visit to India and Burma, received Colonel Nasser, Prime Minister, on board his yacht. A joint statement issued after a six-hour discussion stated that an even more favourable development of Yugoslav-Egyptian relations would be aimed at, and that President Tito had accepted an invitation to visit Egypt in the autumn.

**6 Feb.**—Nuri es-Said's refusal to meet Colonel Nasser (*see Iraq*).

**7 Feb.—Iraqi-Turkish Pact.** Major Salem, Minister of National Guidance, told the press that Egypt would secede from the Arab collective security pact the moment that Iraq signed the proposed alliance with Turkey. She would not, however, in any circumstances, abandon the Arab League. He accused Turkey of having 'designs' on the Arab world and territorial claims to Aleppo and Mosul, but said nevertheless Egypt was ready to co-operate with Turkey but not in a defence pact.

Iraqi protest (*see Iraq*).

**Jordan Waters Dispute.** After a meeting between an Arab committee and Mr Eric Johnston, President Eisenhower's special envoy to the Middle East, on the distribution of the Jordan Waters between Israel, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon, a joint statement announced that an understanding had been reached on general principles.

**8 Feb.—Saudi Arabia.** Emir Feisal, Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia, said after a visit to Colonel Nasser that if Egypt seceded from the Arab League security pact Saudi Arabia would also secede. His Government was in full agreement with Egypt on all questions of Arab foreign policy.

**16 Feb.—India.** Following discussions between Mr Nehru, Prime Minister of India, and Colonel Nasser, a joint statement was issued which said that their talks had indicated an identity of views on major international issues. The Prime Ministers believed that every attempt must be made to prevent war and to develop a climate for peace. International disputes should be settled by negotiation. Military alliances and power entanglements which increased tension and rivalry in armaments did not add to the security of a country.

**FORMOSA. 4 Feb.—U.S. Aircraft.** The commander of the U.S. Far Eastern Air Force, Gen. Partridge, announced that the United States had decided to accelerate the delivery of American Sabre jet fighters to the Nationalist Air Force.

**5 Feb.**—U.S. statement on evacuation of Tachen Islands (*see United States*).

**6 Feb.—Tachen Islands.** The U.S. Seventh Fleet, with a large number of Chinese Nationalist warships and merchantmen, sailed from Formosan ports to carry out the evacuation of Nationalist forces and civilians from the Tachen Islands.

**7 Feb.**—Gen. Chiang Kai-shek issued a statement in which he emphasized that the whole deployment programme was designed to strengthen the Nationalist forces for the eventual reconquest of the main-



land. The statement added: 'The occupation of the Chinese mainland by the international Communist *bloc* is military action of an international character. For this reason the carrying out of our fundamental national policy against Communism and Russian aggression must be co-ordinated with the action of the world-wide democratic front.'

**9 Feb.**—An American aircraft was shot down by Chinese anti-aircraft fire about fifteen or twenty miles south-west of the Tachens. The commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet said that it had made an error in navigation.

**Nanchi Island.** Gen. Huan Chieh, Nationalist C.-in-C., announced that the Nationalists would not give up Nanchi Island without a bitter fight, in spite of American pressure.

**12 Feb.—Tachen Islands.** The evacuation of the Tachen Islands by the Nationalists with the assistance of the U.S. Seventh Fleet was completed.

**13 Feb.**—The Defence Ministry announced that there had been an artillery duel with Chinese Communist forces in the Quemoy area.

**14 Feb.**—Gen. Chiang Kai-shek told the press that it had been made 'perfectly clear' that the United States would defend the Matsu and Quemoy islands, as those two outposts were vital to the defence of Formosa itself. He said the success of the Tachen evacuation was a direct result of President Eisenhower's decision to use the full force of the Seventh Fleet. He reiterated that the United Nations should apply sanctions against Communist China, and he strongly opposed any discussion of a cease-fire outside the United Nations. His Government and people, he declared, could never renounce their 'sacred mission' to liberate the mainland.

**FRANCE. 3 Feb.—North Africa.** On the second day of the Assembly debate on North Africa, M. Mayer, the Radical former Premier, announced that he would vote against the Government, and he made it plain that this was not only because of North Africa but also because of general policy. He accused the Government of contradictions, particularly in the appointment of M. Soustelle as Governor-General of Algeria, and of failing to protect the loyal Muslim population in Algeria. While acknowledging that France must adapt herself to the modern world, he denied that such an adaptation should take the form of withdrawal from the Fezzan or from French India, and said he had no confidence that the Government could give an unmistakable indication of its will to work towards a regime of association and at the same time oppose any idea of secession in North Africa.

M. Mendès-France, Prime Minister, replying to criticisms about the Fezzan, said that many opportunities had been lost of ensuring French rights, both at the time of the formation of the new State of Libya and since. The strategic position of the Fezzan *vis-à-vis* French Africa was vital, and the U.K. and U.S. Governments had been informed of French preoccupations with a view to their exerting influence with the Libyan Government to secure the permanence of two French companies in the Fezzan. It was because there could be no question of a

**France (continued)**

surrender of French rights that no agreement had been reached at the recent negotiations with the Libyan Government.

On Algeria, M. Mendès-France denied some of the allegations made about the state of security there, and after emphasizing the pressing need of reforms gave details of the economic help being planned which would be greater than ever before.

Turning to Tunisia, M. Mendès-France reminded deputies that the Assembly had three times approved the principle of negotiations for internal autonomy, and he pointed out that any agreement reached would not enter into force until ratified by the Assembly. It was essential in his view that the Neo Destour should be involved in the negotiations so that they would not be able afterwards to reject the agreement. The end of the negotiations was in sight, though some technical problems remained. Foreign affairs and defence would remain in French hands, and the future of French citizens would be assured in the judicial and other fields. There were only two choices, M. Mendès-France declared, a policy of entente and reform, or one of repression with all its consequences. He had chosen the first and would defend it to the limit of his abilities. He accused the M.R.P. of agreeing in principle with the Government's North African policy but of preparing to vote against the Government simply because they wanted to bring him down.

M. Mendès-France put the question of confidence on a motion approving unreservedly the Government's policy in North Africa.

**4 Feb.**—A spokesman of the M.R.P. said that his party would vote against the Government, in spite of its agreement on North Africa, because of its disapproval with his record on the German problem.

A Gaullist spokesman said that Gaullists could only support the Government if they were given definite assurances on the permanent attachment of Tunisia to the French Union.

**5 Feb.—Fall of Government.** The Government was defeated by 319 votes to 273 on the vote of confidence on its North African policy, and M. Mendès-France thereupon submitted his Government's resignation. The opposition vote consisted of Communists, M.R.P., right-wing Independents, and twenty members of M. Mendès-France's own Radical Party as well as twenty-five Social Republicans (Gaullists) who either voted against or abstained.

**6 Feb.**—President Coty called on M. Pinay (Conservative Independent) to form a Government.

**10 Feb.**—M. Pinay informed the President that he had decided to abandon his attempt to form a Government in view of the refusal of the Socialists and the M.R.P. to serve under him and of the reservations expressed by other parties, notably the Gaullists.

President Coty asked M. Pflimlin, M.R.P. deputy and former Minister, to make the next attempt.

**14 Feb.**—After failing to reach a satisfactory agreement with the Radicals, M. Pflimlin (M.R.P.) informed the President that he had decided to abandon his attempts to form a Government.

President Coty then called on M. Pineau (Socialist).

**GERMANY. 3 Feb.—West Germany. I. G. Farben.** The Allied High Commission published a law providing for the completion of allied plans for the deconcentration of I. G. Farben, the former chemical concern, and ending active control by the allies.

Czechoslovakian ending of state of war (*see Czechoslovakia*).

**4 Feb.—West Germany. Coal.** It was learnt that the Minister of Economics had asked the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community not to sanction a request of the Ruhr Coal Board to be allowed to increase the price of west German coal.

**East Berlin.** An east Berlin court sentenced to death, under an Allied Control Council law, Karl Theiner, a former S.S. medical orderly, for crimes against humanity committed during the war.

**10 Feb.—Communist Plan for Germany.** The west German Communist press published proposals for Germany which had been adopted unanimously on 6 February by a Communist-sponsored conference in Warsaw of representatives from fifteen European countries including the Soviet Union, all the east European countries, and east and west Germany. The main points of the proposals were: (1) Simultaneous withdrawal of all occupation troops from Germany. The Soviet Union would in this event withdraw its troops to its own territory and at the same time withdraw all Soviet military contingents in Poland protecting the lines of communication of the Soviet troops in Germany. (2) Reunification of Germany through free, controlled elections which should be carried out on the basis of an electoral law guaranteeing all democratic freedoms, as envisaged in Sir Anthony Eden's plan put forward in Berlin. (3) Respect for the Potsdam obligations. The inviolability of the frontiers of a Germany remaining outside all military coalitions would be guaranteed by the other European Powers and by the United States.

**12 Feb.—West Germany.** The Social Democratic Party executive issued a statement saying that the recent changes in the international situation made the Party's demand for new four-Power negotiation before ratification of the Paris agreements even more urgent.

Dr Adenauer, Federal Chancellor, speaking in Hanover, accused the opposition of shaking western confidence in German stability. He repeated his view that only after ratification would there be a chance of German reunification.

**East Germany.** Speaking in Dresden at a meeting of the German Peace Council, held to mark the tenth anniversary of the allied bombing of Dresden, Herr Nuschke, deputy Prime Minister, said that the Soviet Government had offered, in the event of a general withdrawal of occupation forces, to take their troops from east Germany right back into Russia.

Herr Grotewohl, Prime Minister, who also spoke in Dresden, said that the reunification of Germany could take place only if the main hindrance—the rearmament of west Germany and its incorporation in the western alliance—were removed.

**13 Feb.—West Germany.** Dr Adenauer, speaking at Hamm, said that it would not be very long before the Soviet Union would find itself

**Germany (continued)**

faced with far greater dangers from the pressure of rising population in China than could ever come from Europe. There was, therefore, no need to be frightened by the Soviet threat to refuse negotiations on Germany once the Paris treaties were signed. In any case there could be no possibility of successful negotiations with the Russians until the West had established its unity. None of the four great Powers was ready for a conference.

**14 Feb.—West Germany. Bundesrat Officials.** The Bundesrat elected Dr Suhr, the Social Democratic chief Burgomaster of Berlin, as second vice-president, and Dr Högner, Social Democratic Chief Minister of Bavaria, as chairman of the foreign affairs committee. Both replaced Christian Democrats.

**16 Feb.—West Germany. Paris Agreements.** The Foreign Affairs Committee of the Bundestag approved by 19 votes to 9 the Paris agreements on west Germany's entry into N.A.T.O. and on Western European Union.

**GOLD COAST. 4 Feb.—Ashanti.** Sir Agyeman Prempeh II, King of Ashanti, said at a meeting in Kumasi that 'the present political crisis in Ashanti is like a war which we must fight to the end, because our ancestors fought for our land'. They would never give up their demands.

**15 Feb.**—The Governor announced in the Legislative Assembly that from the end of July the Colonial Secretary would cease to exercise control over the civil service.

**GREAT BRITAIN. 3 Feb.**—Informal agreement to buy more Australian primary products (*see Australia*).

British reply to Soviet Note on Paris agreements (*see U.S.S.R.*).

**4 Feb.—Formosa.** The Foreign Secretary, in a written parliamentary reply on the existing legal status of Formosa, said: 'Formosa and the Pescadores were ceded to Japan by China in the Shimonoseki Treaty of 1895. In the Cairo Declaration of November 1943, the allies stated that it was their purpose "that all the territories which Japan has stolen from the Chinese such as . . . Formosa and the Pescadores, shall be restored to the Republic of China. . . ." This declaration was a statement of intention that Formosa should be retroceded to China after the war. This retrocession has in fact never taken place, because of the difficulties arising from the existence of two entities claiming to represent China, and the differences among the Powers as to the status of these entities. The Potsdam Declaration of July 1945 laid down as one of the conditions for the Japanese peace that the terms of the Cairo Declaration should be carried out.

'In September 1945 the administration of Formosa was taken over from the Japanese by Chinese forces at the direction of the Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers; but this was not a cession, nor did it in itself involve any change of sovereignty. The arrangements made with Chiang Kai-shek put him there on a basis of military occupation pending

further arrangements, and did not of themselves constitute the territory Chinese. Under the peace treaty of April 1952, Japan formally renounced all right, title, and claim to Formosa and the Pescadores; but again this did not operate as a transfer to Chinese sovereignty, whether to the People's Republic of China or to the Chinese Nationalist authorities. Formosa and the Pescadores are therefore, in the view of H.M. Government, territory the *de jure* sovereignty over which is uncertain or undetermined.

'The Nationalist-held islands in close proximity to the coast of China are in a different category from Formosa and the Pescadores, since they undoubtedly form part of the territory of the People's Republic of China. Any attempt by the Government of the People's Republic of China, however, to assert its authority over these islands by force would, in the circumstances at present peculiar to the case, give rise to a situation endangering peace and security, which is properly a matter of international concern.'

#### **Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference *q.v.***

**8 Feb.—New Zealand and Malaya.** Mr Holland, New Zealand Prime Minister, announced in a statement that his Government had authorized the transfer to Malaya of No. 14 Fighter Bomber Squadron from Cyprus and of a transport squadron.

**9 Feb.**—Subsidy for Jordan home guard (*see Jordan*).

**11 Feb.—Economic Situation.** Mr Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking in Liverpool, said that though exports had risen during 1954 they had not risen fast enough to keep pace with imports, and he gave a warning that 'a hand must be kept on the reins' to prevent the economy moving faster than the capacity to pay for bigger imports. He urged industrialists to spend profits on equipping their businesses and warned them that they would have to face keen German and Japanese competition in the future.

**14 Feb.—Formosa.** Sir Anthony Eden, in reply to a question in the Commons, said that on 9 February H.M. Ambassador in Moscow had presented the Government's preliminary observations on the Soviet proposal for a ten-Power conference on Formosa. The Government had commented that the composition of the conference did not appear to be representative: in particular the Chinese Nationalist authorities in Formosa were to be excluded. H.M. Government were convinced that a conference which did not include both parties could have no useful result. The Government also considered that the United Nations should not be overlooked but that any discussion of the dispute should be organized in a form acceptable to the United Nations. Finally, the Government had stressed once more their view that all concerned should use their best endeavours to stop the fighting. H.M. Government had asked for the views of the Soviet Government on these points.

**15 Feb.—Atomic Power Stations.** The Government published a White Paper entitled *A Programme of Nuclear Power* (Cmd. 9389, S.O. price 6d.). It outlined a ten-year programme for the building of twelve nuclear power stations with a total capacity of 1.5 to 2 m. kilowatts at an estimated cost of about £300 m. It was hoped that the



**Great Britain** (*continued*)

building of the first two stations would start in 1957 and that they would come into operation about 1961.

**Italy.** Signor Scelba and Signor Martino, the Italian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, arrived in London for a five-day visit.

**16 Feb.—Air Defence.** The Government published a White Paper entitled *The Supply of Military Aircraft* (Cmd. No. 9388, S.O., price 6d.).

**Kenya.** Mr Lennox-Boyd, Colonial Secretary, told the House of Commons in a debate on Kenya that so far there had been 127 surrenders since the Kenya Government's new surrender offer. Of these 25 per cent were 'hard core' terrorists. The weekly surrender rate had risen from eleven to thirty-one.

**GREECE. 4 Feb.**—Mr Markezinis, the former Co-ordination Minister, announced that he had formed a new party of progressives comprising the twenty-two delegates who had followed him after his resignation from the Greek Rally.

**7 Feb.—Cyprus.** Field-Marshal Papagos, Prime Minister, reaffirmed in Parliament the Government's resolve to continue the struggle for self-determination in Cyprus. He revealed that he had offered Britain military bases on the Greek mainland in return for a liberal constitution for Cyprus including a plebiscite for self-determination 'in two or three years'. He emphasized that one of the corner-stones of Greek foreign policy was friendly relations with Britain.

**INDIA. 10 Feb.—Travancore Cochin.** The Praja Socialist minority Government of Travancore Cochin submitted its resignation following its defeat on a no-confidence motion.

**15 Feb.**—The Congress Party formed a new Government in Travancore Cochin with the support of the Tamil group and two defecting Socialists.

**16 Feb.—Congress Party.** Mr U. N. Dhebar, the newly-elected President of the Congress Party, said in Calcutta that the Congress and the Communist Party could not co-exist in India, because democracy and dictatorship could not work together.

Mr Nehru's talks in Egypt (*see Egypt*).

**INDO-CHINA. 5 Feb.—Northern Vietnam.** The North Vietnam Government issued a statement saying that it was ready to re-establish normal relations between North and South Vietnam, including facilities for sending mail, conducting businesses in each zone, and exchanging information on cultural and sporting matters.

**6 Feb.—Cambodia.** Newspaper offices in Pnom Penh, the capital, were raided by the police, and the editors of several papers, including the organ of the opposition Democratic Party, were arrested.

**7 Feb.—Cambodia. Referendum.** A referendum was held in Cambodia under which the people were asked to approve or disapprove the conduct of affairs by King Norodom Sihanouk over the previous



three years. First results indicated a 99·98 per cent majority in support of the King.

**8 Feb.—Northern Vietnam.** The international armistice control commission at Hanoi published a note sharply criticizing the action of the Viet Minh authorities in incidents between Viet Minh troops and a group of north Vietnamese Roman Catholics wishing to emigrate to the south, at Balang, Thanh Hoa province, between 2 and 7 January. It complained of 'unjustifiable delays' caused by the Viet Minh to the international mobile teams sent to investigate the incidents, and found that the Viet Minh had placed conditions on the issue of passes for the southern zone which were incompatible with the Geneva agreements. Pressure had been exerted on people demanding passes, and the violent incidents at Balang—in which one Viet Minh soldier and four civilians had been killed—had prevented the right of option in the region.

**16 Feb.—Southern Vietnam.** It was announced that the Prime Minister had signed a decree establishing a provisional National Assembly for southern Vietnam consisting of both elected and nominated members. Election would be indirect, by members of provincial, municipal, and communal councils. A certain number of seats would be reserved for northern Vietnam and left vacant to 'emphasize the opposition of the Saigon Government to the partition of the national territory'.

**IRAQ. 6 Feb.—Foreign Policy.** The Chamber of Deputies unanimously supported the policy of Nuri es-Said, Prime Minister, of 'ensuring safety and defence under the charters of the United Nations and the Arab League'.

During the debate Ahmed Mukhtar Baban, deputy Prime Minister, said that the meetings with Arab League delegates in Baghdad had made clear that the only country that differed from Iraq was Egypt.

**Egypt.** Nuri es-Said sent a reply to Colonel Nasser, Prime Minister of Egypt, saying that he would have been pleased to meet him had not the Egyptian condition been unacceptable. (Colonel Nasser had asked for a prior assurance that Iraq would accept the decision of the majority of the Arab States on whether Iraq should conclude a treaty with Turkey.)

**7 Feb.—Egypt.** A Note was presented to the Egyptian Ambassador protesting against the use of diplomatic channels for the introduction into Iraq of publications inciting Iraqis against the Iraqi-Turkish pact and seeking to create disturbances and foment hatred for the Government.

**14 Feb.—Jordan.** King Hussein of Jordan arrived on a visit to King Feisal, his cousin.

Iraqi-Syrian talks (*see Syria*).

**16 Feb.—Talks in Lebanon and statement on an Iraqi-Syrian union (*see Lebanon*).**

**ISRAEL. 9 Feb.—Foreign Debts.** The Finance Minister told the Knesset that total foreign exchange obligations amounted to

**Israel** (*continued*)

\$417,674,000, an increase of \$12 m. since the beginning of 1954. Short-term foreign debts had been reduced from \$72,900,000 at the beginning of 1954 to \$34 m.

**12 Feb.—Frontier Clash.** The Army reported that one Israeli soldier had been killed and two wounded in an engagement with a Jordanian unit in Israel territory south of Dawayima and west of Hebron. One Jordanian villager was killed and three were wounded. (*See also Jordan*).

**14 Feb.—Syria.** The Army stated that the Syrians had opened fire across the frontier north of Lake Hula and that a two hours' exchange of fire had followed.

**ITALY. 11 Feb.—U.S. Aid.** An exchange of Notes with the United States Government recorded an allotment of \$15,520,000 for the purchase of cotton from the United States. The counterpart value in lire was to be used by the Government for road building and other public works in southern Italy.

**15 Feb.—Visit of Prime Minister and Foreign Minister to Britain** (*see Great Britain*).

**JAPAN. 4 Feb.—U.S.S.R.** The Cabinet decided to open negotiations with Russia for the resumption of normal relations and instructed Mr Shigemitsu, the Foreign Minister, to despatch through the Japanese representative at the United Nations a proposal for talks in New York.

**6 Feb.—United States.** It was reliably reported that the United States Ambassador had handed to Mr Shigemitsu, Foreign Minister, a memorandum rejecting Japan's request for a \$50 m. cut in the joint defence costs.

**16 Feb.—U.S.S.R.** Mr Hatoyama, Prime Minister, announced in Kobe that he had received another Note from the Soviet Government expressing readiness to open negotiations for a resumption of normal relations whenever and wherever the Japanese Government desired. The Prime Minister expressed a wish for an exchange of trade missions with China.

**JORDAN. 9 Feb.—Great Britain.** The Prime Minister announced that Britain had agreed to pay £350,000 as an annual subsidy for the Jordan National Guard for the next five years. Two other requested revisions of the treaty—that Jordan should be supplied with fighter aircraft and that financial aid should be considered a loan—were still being considered by Britain.

**12 Feb.—Frontier Clash.** An official statement reported that 'an Israeli armed force had attacked the village of Khirbet Sikka 'for the eighth time in six weeks'. (*See also Israel*).

**14 Feb.—Iraq.** King Hussein left by air to visit his cousin King Feisal of Iraq.

**KENYA. 3 Feb.—Protestant Church leaders,** headed by the Right Rev. L. J. Beecher, Bishop of Mombasa, expressed to the acting Governor

grave concern regarding some aspects of the authorities' action in dealing with the emergency. The delegation submitted evidence of some alleged reprehensible activities being carried out by security teams and emphasized that in their view the entire rehabilitation programme for Africans in detention camps should be speeded up. They were also concerned at the treatment of loyal members of the tribes.

The acting Governor gave a renewed assurance that indiscriminate action against the Kikuyu was contrary to Government policy, and said that there was every intention of encouraging the loyal and punishing the subversive elements.

**4 Feb.**—A meeting at Kitale of European settlers passed by 280 votes to 3 a motion deploring the new surrender terms. It also adopted another resolution expressing determination to do their utmost, and if necessary to fight, to retain land which they considered theirs by every moral and legal right (i.e. the White Highlands).

**6 Feb.—European Electors' Constitutional Proposals.** The standing committee set up by the party truce conference of the European Electors Union on 5 October 1954 issued a report containing proposals for constitutional changes in three stages. In the first stage, in the immediate period before the next general election, it proposed that steps should be taken to introduce a cross-bench comprising the nominated members on the Government benches, who would be entitled to exercise a free vote, except in a vote of confidence in the Government, as distinct from confidence in a particular minister. In the second stage, after the beginning of the new legislature, it proposed that the Executive Council should be abolished, and that the Asian representation on the Council of Ministers should be one Muslim and one non-Muslim, both without portfolio, and that any additional Arab or African ministers should be balanced by an equal number of European ministers with or without portfolio. Finally, the report recommended that for the third period, from 1960 onwards, steps should be taken towards federation of the East African territories, with the division if possible of the existing territories (e.g. Kenya and Tanganyika) 'into several provinces and states'.

Mr Blundell, the United Country Party leader, refused to sign the report because he had been unable to attend a sufficient number of meetings of the committee, and because the Lyttelton proposals were a standstill on the constitution and other matters. His United Country Party issued a statement saying that it intended to devote its whole energies to ending the emergency and promising a programme before the general election.

**7 Feb.**—The first public meeting to be held in Nairobi since the new surrender terms were announced passed a resolution of no confidence in the Government and the War Council. There were about thirty dissentients out of a total attendance of at least 300.

**Emergency Figures.** It was announced that in the week ended 5 February forty-five terrorists had been killed, twenty-eight captured, and 167 detained for questioning. Twenty-six had surrendered. Security forces' casualties were one African killed and two wounded.

**Kenya** (*continued*)

**8 Feb.**—In accordance with the recommendations of the Young report, the Government issued a regulation providing that no person might be detained in police custody for more than fifteen days except on the authority of a magistrate.

**15 Feb.**—**Operation Hammer.** G.H.Q., East Africa, reported that in Operation Hammer against terrorists in the Aberdare Mountains ninety-nine terrorists were killed, thirty-two captured, and thirty surrendered. The operation ended on 12 February after six weeks.

**16 Feb.**—British statement on number of surrenders (*see Great Britain*).

**European Electors' Union.** The annual conference of the Union passed, with only seven dissentients, a resolution denouncing the surrender offer. The resolution was adopted despite an appeal by Mr Blundell, Minister without portfolio and member of the War Council, who said that the Government would be making a statement the following day on the date for withdrawal of the surrender terms, and that from the latest information there was every chance that the offer might be successful.

It was reported that European settlers in the Aberdare Forest area had started a leaflet campaign warning terrorists that they would do everything in their power to see that all murderers and their accomplices would if captured get their just deserts.

**KOREA. 5 Feb.**—U.S.-Communist air clash (*see United States*).

**14 Feb.**—North Korea alleged that five United Nations aircraft had flown over her west coast on 11 February in violation of the Korean armistice agreement.

**LEBANON. 16 Feb.**—**Iraq.** Dr Fadil Jamali, representative of the Iraqi Prime Minister, had talks in Beirut with President Shamoun. He said Iraq would terminate the treaty with Britain when the pact with Turkey was signed. Referring to the talks he had just had in Damascus, he expressed the view that a majority of the peoples in Syria and Iraq favoured a union of the two countries.

**MALAYA. 8 Feb.**—Transfer to Malaya of New Zealand air units (*see Great Britain*).

**Singapore.** The new constitution of Singapore came into force.

**15 Feb.**—Emergency figures for January showed that thirty-seven terrorists were killed, sixteen wounded, seven captured, and twenty-four surrendered, making a total of 5,448 killed, 2,472 wounded, and 1,518 surrenders.

**MOROCCO. 12 Feb.**—The security police claimed to have uncovered a complete terrorist network, including an armoury, at Khemisset between Rabat and Meknes. Twenty-four arrests were made.

**13 Feb.**—It was announced that two Moroccans had been shot dead in Casablanca.

**NEPAL. 6 Feb.—Nepal Praja Parishad.** Two parties of the previous four-party coalition Government, the Nepal Praja Parishad, led by Tankprasad Acharya, and the People's Congress, led by Bhadrakali Misra, announced their decision to merge in a new party to be known as Nepal Praja Parishad. A section of the former Prime Minister's party, the National Democrats, led by the President of the Assembly, Balchandra Sharma, also joined the new party.

**11 Feb.—Ministers' Dismissal.** The Royal Council, in response to a request of the Prime Minister, Mr M. P. Koirala, dismissed two members of the Cabinet—Tankprasad Acharya and Bhadrakali Misra. The dismissal followed a four-month feud with the Prime Minister. The two Ministers had refused to resign, pointing out that the Government had already resigned.

**NEW ZEALAND. 8 Feb.—Transfer of New Zealand air units to Malaya (see *Great Britain*).**

**NORDIC COUNCIL. 3 Feb.—**The third session of the Council ended after having agreed to extend co-operation in radio and television and to ask Governments to report on the investigation into the possibilities of a common Nordic market. Icelandic discontent with the Swedish air traffic policy was expressed but failed to secure Danish or Norwegian support.

**NORWAY. 3 Feb.—Nordic Council *q.v.***

**14 Feb.—Financial Measures.** The discount rate of the Norges Bank was raised from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

The Storting decided to reduce imports by 7 per cent in 1955 and to introduce an immediate 10 per cent duty on all shipbuilding contracts for vessels above 2,500 tons. It also decided to end the free import of motor cars from eastern Europe and to reduce the import of those from west Europe from 5,000 to 2,500. The measures were taken to reduce a drastic trade deficit and inflationary tendencies.

**PAKISTAN. 4 Feb.—**Pakistan's declaration of intention to become a republic (see *Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference*).

**9 Feb.—Dissolution of Constituent Assembly.** The Sind Provincial Chief Court declared the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly by the Governor-General on 24 October 1954 to be illegal, and it ordered a writ to be issued against five Ministers of the Central Government—Major-Gen. Iskander Mirza (Interior), Gen. Mohammed Ayub (Defence), Dr Khan Sahib (Communications), Mr Ispahani (Industries) and Mir Ghulam Ali Talpur (Education)—prohibiting them from exercising the office of Minister on the ground they were not entitled to seats in the Cabinet because they were not members of the Assembly. The Court also ordered the issue of a writ restoring Maulvi Tamizuddin Khan to his office of President of the Assembly.

**16 Feb.—Formosa.** Mr Mohammed Ali, Prime Minister, commenting in Karachi on the Formosan dispute, said his view was that the Communist regime on the Chinese mainland should be recognized

**Pakistan** (*continued*)

by the western Powers and that a move should be made to limit the claim of the Nationalists to Formosa alone. In this way, he felt, the problem of Communist Chinese representation in the United Nations could also be solved.

**PANAMA. 10 Feb.—Murder of President Remón.** An investigating committee of the National Assembly recommended that the former President Guizado be indicted by the Assembly for complicity in the assassination of his predecessor, President Remón.

**PERSIA. 6 Feb.—Exchange Rate.** The Government lowered the exchange rate of the rial from 222½ to 210 to the pound sterling.

**RHODESIA AND NYASALAND. 3 Feb.—Copperbelt Dispute. Selection Trust Proposals.** The Rhodesian Selection Trust issued proposals for African advancement designed to replace the colour bar by an 'ability bar'. They proposed that the European union should give up certain of the least skilled jobs on the existing European schedule which were deemed to be within the existing capacity of the African, and others which after training might come within that scope. In working out the rates the company would negotiate first with the European and then with the African Union.

**9 Feb.—Nyasaland.** The Governor of Nyasaland, Sir Geoffrey Colby, announced to a conference of five delegates from each of the European, Asian, and African communities proposals for revision of the Nyasaland constitution. He proposed that the Legislative Council should have five African seats instead of three and that the non-Africans (Europeans and Asians) should share six seats instead of there being five for Europeans and one for Asians. He also proposed that there should no longer be a European member of the Legislative Council to represent African interests but that one official member should be added to increase the membership from twenty-one to twenty-three with twelve official and eleven unofficial. The existing system of nominating European and Asian members would be abolished and an electoral system based on the federal system introduced. The election of non-Africans by a non-African electoral roll would be carried out through the constituencies.

**RUMANIA. 11 Feb.—Appeal for political asylum by member of Legation staff** (*see Denmark*).

**15 Feb.—Attack on Legation in Berne** (*see Switzerland*).

**Switzerland.** A Note was handed to the Swiss Minister complaining that the Swiss authorities, in spite of calls for aid, had done nothing to arrest the 'group of Fascist bandits' and other armed elements who had forced their way into the Rumanian Legation in Berne and had denied medical aid to the wounded chauffeur. It strongly protested against the 'criminal activity tolerated by the Swiss authorities and against the violation of extra-territoriality', and demanded the evacuation of the



Legation, the arrest of the criminals, and their extradition to Rumania. The Government also reserved its right to take further action.

Swiss reply to protest (*see Switzerland*).

**16 Feb.**—The Government sent a further Note to the Swiss Government rejecting the Swiss reply as 'unsatisfactory' and demanding anew the immediate restoration of extra-territoriality to the Legation buildings in Berne and the extradition of the culprits. It again insisted that the Swiss Government had failed to take adequate measures to deal with the situation and said this had caused grave concern to the Rumanian Government and people.

Protest to Denmark (*see Denmark*).

**SAUDI ARABIA. 8 Feb.**—Prime Minister's support for Egypt in dispute with Iraq (*see Egypt*).

**SIERRA LEONE. 12 Feb.**—**Riots.** A curfew was imposed in Freetown following two days of rioting in which twenty people were killed and hundreds injured. The disorders developed following a strike for higher wages called by the Artisans and General Workers' Union.

**13 Feb.**—It was announced that a Government commission would be set up to inquire into the riots.

**SOUTH AFRICA. 8 Feb.**—**Removal of Africans at Johannesburg.** Under the Riotous Assemblies Act, the Minister of Justice prohibited public meetings in the magisterial districts of Johannesburg and Roodeport for twenty days. The order was issued to ensure the peaceful removal of African families from the western Johannesburg township of Sophiatown to new Government-built houses at Meadowlands, eleven miles away.

**12 Feb.**—Eight African youths were arrested in Sophiatown, Johannesburg, on charges of creating a public disturbance. They had been seeking to organize opposition to the Government's compulsory evacuation of Africans to the new town of Meadowlands.

**13 Feb.**—Three African youths were injured in clashes with the police in Sophiatown, and two others arrested.

**14 Feb.**—Thirty members of the African National Congress were arrested while trying to organize opposition to the evacuation of Africans to Meadowlands.

**15 Feb.**—The Minister of Justice announced the lifting of the ban on meetings in the Johannesburg district. He said the removal of Africans was proceeding peacefully.

**SUDAN. 12 Feb.**—Ismail el Azhari, Prime Minister, speaking in Khartoum on the second anniversary of the Anglo-Egyptian agreement, expressed admiration and gratitude to the British officials affected by Sudanization for the goodwill they had shown while handing over their posts, and said the Sudan would never forget Britain's fidelity to her pledges to make the agreement work smoothly. He also thanked Egypt for her initiative in negotiating the agreement.

**Sudan** (*continued*)

**14 Feb.**—In his speech opening the third session of Parliament, the Governor, Sir Robert Howe, expressed the Government's concern that a substantial part of the cotton crop had not yet been sold, and that foreign exchange reserves had consequently dropped appreciably. He said that until the carry forward of cotton was reduced efforts to conserve foreign exchange resources must be intensified. He announced that a tax on wages would be introduced, and declared that Government policy would aim at creating conditions which would encourage foreign capital.

**SWEDEN. 3 Feb.**—Nordic Council *q.v.*

**SWITZERLAND. 15 Feb.**—**Attack on Rumanian Legation.** A band of heavily armed men claiming to be members of a resistance movement in Rumania, forced their way into the Rumanian Legation, mortally wounded the official chauffeur, and barricaded themselves in. The Rumanian Chargé d'Affaires, Mr Stoffel, with his wife and family, escaped from the building and informed the police.

The Rumanian Government sent a Note to the Government asking for the arrest and deportation of the men and strongly protested against the delay in action being taken (*see also Rumania*).

Swiss police cordoned off the Legation buildings and grounds and established contact with the intruders but were unable to get them to leave. They said they would not move until five of their comrades arrested in Rumania were released. (The five comrades were named as Gen. Adia Aldea, Bishop Sudtin, Illic Lazar, Anton Mursu, and B. B. Pretinu.) One of the group who was caught escaping with documents stolen from the Legation, was arrested.

In a reply to the Rumanian Government's protest the Swiss Government said it found the tone of the Rumanian Note inexcusable and its allegations unwarrantable, and it suggested that the Rumanian Government had been 'badly informed' about the happenings. The Government reserved the right to return to the question of the extradition of the arrested men.

**16 Feb.**—The three men inside the Rumanian Legation surrendered to the Swiss police after being warned that force would be used to evict them.

Further Rumanian protest (*see Rumania*).

**SYRIA. 6 Feb.**—Following the withdrawal of the National Party from the Coalition Government, Fares el-Khoury announced that he was submitting his Cabinet's resignation to President Hashem el-Atassi.

**10 Feb.**—Fares el-Khoury was invited by the President to form a new Government but after consultations gave up the attempt.

**13 Feb.**—**New Government.** Sabri Assali (Nationalist) formed a new Government which included Khalez Azm (Independent) as Foreign Minister and Acting Minister of Defence; Wahid Ghanem (Baath Socialist) as Minister of State and Acting Minister of Health; Leon

Zamariya (Nationalist) as Minister of Finance; and Mamoun Khuzbery (Independent) as Minister of Justice. Sabri Assali himself took over the Ministry of the Interior.

**14 Feb.—Iraq.** Dr Fadil Jamali, who was visiting the Levant States as personal representative of the Iraqi Prime Minister, Nuri es-Said, had talks with the new Prime Minister and Foreign Minister.

Israeli allegation *re* firing across the frontier (*see Israel*).

**16 Feb.**—Iraqi statement on union of Syria and Iraq (*see Lebanon*).

**TANGANYIKA. 10 Feb.**—The Legislative Council passed unanimously a resolution recording 'deep regret' at the procedure adopted by the Trusteeship Council in publishing the report of the U.N. visiting mission.

**TUNISIA. 16 Feb.**—**Bread Riots.** Following bread riots at Tunis, Beya, and Sfax, French officials gave a warning that the situation might become catastrophic if emergency relief measures were not taken promptly. The situation was due to the winter's drought.

**UGANDA. 5 Feb.**—**Progressive Party.** The newly formed Progressive Party announced at a public meeting in Kampala that it would work for a new self-governing Uganda and that it aimed at securing political responsibility for the African. It declared its complete opposition to the federation of Uganda with other territories.

**13 Feb.**—**Disorders.** A police officer was killed and three other policemen injured when an attempt to arrest a self-styled 'prophet', Matiya Kibuka Kigarira, for offences against the witchcraft laws was resisted by his followers near Kampala.

**14 Feb.**—Matiya and eleven of his followers were arrested after a baton charge and the use of tear gas.

## UNITED NATIONS

### Security Council

**3 Feb.**—Peking reply to Secretary-General's invitation (*see China*).

**14 Feb.**—**Chinese Communist-Nationalist Hostilities.** The Council accepted the suggestion of the British delegate that it should adjourn without taking any further decision on the Formosa dispute but continue to watch Far Eastern developments. It refused by 10 votes to 1 to discuss the Russian resolution (submitted on 30 January), and it also refused without a vote to discuss a renewed Russian proposal to oust Nationalist China from the Council.

During the discussion the delegates of New Zealand, Britain, the United States, Brazil, France, and Turkey expressed regret at the Peking Government's refusal to accept the Secretary-General's invitation. The Russian delegate again accused the United States of aggression against China and interference in her internal affairs, and the delegate of Nationalist China called for condemnation for the 'hostile acts' of the Peking regime.

**UNITED STATES. 5 Feb.—Evacuation of Tachen Islands.** The State Department announced that the Chinese Nationalist Government in Formosa had informed them of its intention, for reasons of redeployment of its forces, to evacuate the Tachen Islands. It had asked for U.S. aid in the operation, and the Government had given orders to the U.S. Seventh Fleet and other forces to assist. The Government had also advised the Chinese Nationalist Government that with the object of securing and protecting Formosa it would aid 'in defending such related positions and territories now in its hands as the United States deems to be essential to the defence of Formosa and the Pescadores'.

**U.S.—Communist Air Clash.** The State Department announced that two Communist MIG fighters which attacked a U.S. reconnaissance plane over the Yellow Sea were shot down west of Korea by escorting Sabre jet aircraft.

**6 Feb.**—U.S. reply to Japanese request for lower defence expenditure (*see Japan*).

**8 Feb.—Conscription Law.** The House of Representatives voted by 394 to 4 to extend conscription for a further four years.

**U.S.—Chinese Nationalist Treaty.** The Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate approved by 11 votes to 2 (Senators Morse and Langer) the Formosa defence treaty signed on 2 December 1954, but it added in an interpretative statement reservations (1) ensuring that the treaty did not imply recognition of Nationalist Chinese sovereignty over Formosa; (2) making any extension of the pact to territories other than Formosa and the Pescadores dependent on its consent; and (3) stipulating that no military obligations should be undertaken by either party from territories under Nationalist control except by joint agreement. Senator Morse objected that these reservations had no standing in treaty law or they would be written into the text.

**9 Feb.—Trade Union Merger.** Sub-committees of the American Federation of Labour and the Congress of Industrial Organizations announced agreement on the terms of a merger of the two unions into a single federation.

**10 Feb.—U.S.—Chinese Nationalist Treaty.** The Senate ratified by 64 votes to 6 the Formosa defence treaty signed on 2 December 1954. The debate made clear that the Senate considered the reservations in the interpretative statement of the Foreign Relations Committee (*see 8 February*) to be binding on the State Department.

U.S. credit to Brazil (*see Brazil*).

**11 Feb.—Nationalist China.** Mr Yeh, Chinese Nationalist Foreign Minister, told the press before leaving for Formosa that the Quemoy and Matsu groups were included in the American commitments. He made it clear that the Nationalists did not accept the American view of the juridical status of Formosa which, he said, became a Chinese province on the day of the Japanese surrender.

Senator George, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said he knew of no pledge or understanding committing the United States to the defence of the coastal islands.

**15 Feb.—Hydrogen Bomb.** The Atomic Energy Commission issued

a report on radio active 'fall-out' which estimated, on the basis of a hydrogen bomb explosion at Bikini in March 1954, that a single hydrogen bomb of the latest type, dropped in the worst possible conditions, could kill every person in an area of 7,000 square miles down wind from the explosion.

Mr Wilson, Secretary of Defence, told the press that the United States was far ahead of the Soviet Union in the development of nuclear weapons. He thought Mr Molotov's boast of Russian superiority in hydrogen bombs was made to obscure what was happening in the Kremlin.

**16 Feb.—Foreign Policy.** Mr Dulles, Secretary of State, in a broadcast review of foreign policy, said: 'It has been suggested that Nationalist China should surrender to the Chinese Communists the coastal positions which the Communists need to stage their announced attack on Formosa. It is doubtful whether this would serve either the cause of peace or the cause of freedom. . . If the Chinese Nationalists now oblige by making it easier for the Chinese Communists to conquer Formosa, will they be less apt to do so? I doubt it.' He pointed out that the United States had 'no commitment and no purpose to defend the coastal positions *as such*. The basic purpose is to assure that Formosa and the Pescadores will not be forcibly taken over by the Chinese Communists'. He went on to point out that the Communists had commented that the evacuation of the Tachen Islands by the Nationalists had created favourable conditions for the liberation of Formosa. In so doing they had linked the coastal position to the defence of Formosa' and it was that fact which compelled the United States 'to take into account closely related localities'.

Mr Dulles noted that the Chinese Communists had 'contemptuously rejected' the Security Council's invitation to discuss the ending of hostilities in the area, and said: 'We sincerely hope that this decision is not irrevocable and that they will abide by the principles of the United Nations rather than challenge by force the defensive obligations of this country. The Communist attitude has not ended the responsibilities of the Security Council.' He went on to say that it should not be assumed that peace and security would be promoted by indefinitely granting one-sided concessions to the Communist nations. 'If the non-Communist nations ever come to feel that the western allies are disposed to retreat whenever Communism threatens the peace, then the entire area could quickly become indefensible.'

Commenting on the Soviet Union's change of leadership, Mr Dulles said its significance was still obscure. 'Undoubtedly we see an elemental, personal struggle for power. But also one can perceive the outlines of a basic policy difference. There must be those who are primarily concerned with the welfare, security, and greatness of the Soviet Union and its people. There are others who would have the Soviet Union and its power serve primarily as a tool of international Communism and as a means of achieving its world-wide ambitions.' Mr Dulles believed the time would come when Russians of stature would put their national security and people's welfare first, and if that view should

**United States** (*continued*)

prevail, then indeed there 'could be a basis for worthwhile negotiation and practical agreement between the United States and the new Russia'. Then the 'historic friendship' between the two countries might be reinvigorated.

**U.S.S.R. 3 Feb.—Economic Policy.** Moscow Radio broadcast a speech made by Mr Khrushchev, First Secretary of the Communist Party, to the plenum of the central committee on 25 January, the day after Mr Mikoyan's resignation. Mr Khrushchev stated that the development of heavy industry was the cardinal task and he criticized those who considered that 'at a certain stage of socialist building the development of heavy industry allegedly ceases to be the main task and that light industry can and must outstrip all other branches of industry'. He seriously criticized the state of affairs in agriculture and outlined a new plan to increase food production.

**3 Feb.—Great Britain.** In a reply to the Soviet Note of 13 January, which had stated that the Paris agreements contravened the 1925 Geneva Protocol on chemical and bacteriological warfare, the British Government rejected the allegation on the ground that (1) the Protocol did not prohibit the manufacture of such weapons but only their use in war; (2) the Paris agreements in no way obliged the signatories to produce such weapons and therefore in no way provided for the creation of large stocks (as the Russians alleged).

The Note pointed out that when signing the Protocol both the British and Soviet Governments had reserved the right to retaliate in kind if such weapons were used against them; also that the Paris agreements envisaged an international agency for the control of bacteriological and chemical weapons as well as other types of armaments, whereas no comparable system was understood to exist in eastern Europe.

**Supreme Soviet.** The Supreme Soviet met in Moscow.

**Budget.** Mr Zverev, Minister of Finance, presenting the Budget, said that the Government had decided to spend 112,100 m. roubles (more than £10,000 m.) on defence in 1955, compared with 100,300 m. roubles in 1954. The allotment to heavy industry was nearly twice as much as to light industry and agriculture together. Expenditure on the national economy (i.e. items other than social welfare, culture, and defence) would be 220,400 m. roubles, compared with 326,700 m. for 1954.

**5 Feb.—U.S.—Communist air clash** (*see United States*).

**7 Feb.—State Security.** The Supreme Soviet approved a new decree giving Cabinet rank to the chairman of the State Security Committee with a seat in the Government. The new decree, it was stated, aimed at 'strengthening the links' between the Committee in Moscow and the security committees in the sixteen Soviet Republics.

**Budget.** The Budget was approved after amendments making increases of about 600 m. roubles which brought the expenditure figure to 590,192 m. roubles against 552,800 m. in 1954 and 514,700 m. in 1953.

**8 Feb.—Resignation of Mr Malenkov.** The Supreme Soviet



accepted the resignation of Mr Malenkov as Prime Minister and appointed Marshal Bulganin, Minister of Defence, to succeed him. In a statement read to the Supreme Soviet Mr Malenkov spoke of his 'lack of experience in local work' and admitted his 'guilt and responsibility for the unsatisfactory state of affairs' in agriculture. He recognized that the programme which had been worked out to overcome the lagging behind of agriculture was based on the only correct foundation—the further development by every means of heavy industry.

**Foreign Policy.** Mr Molotov, Foreign Minister, in a review of foreign policy to a joint session of the two Houses of the Supreme Soviet, said that great changes had taken place in the international position since the war. The Soviet Union was no longer isolated and the capitalist imperialist camp was opposed by the socialist democratic camp led by the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic. The countries of the socialist camp were getting much more support from the Soviet Union. There were also great changes in the Near and Middle East though the Arab movement for freedom and independence had not yet acquired the force that it had in Asia. Other points in his speech were:

*South-east Asia.* Mr Molotov emphasized the importance of the adherence of India, Burma, and China to the five principles of international co-operation on which Soviet policy was founded, and he called on other nations to accept them as a general basis. He said the 'international authority' of India was an important factor in peace and security, and he expressed great satisfaction with the development of Indian-Soviet friendly relations. The recent economic agreement for the construction of a steel plant in India was an example of their mutual respect and sympathy. He hoped that Pakistan and Ceylon would, like India, find real independence, and he described the Afro-Asian conference (to be held in April) as an important landmark.

*Formosa.* Formosa and the Chinese islands were undoubtedly Chinese territory. This was confirmed by the Cairo and Potsdam declarations as well as in the act of surrender to Japan. The question was a domestic affair of the Chinese People's Republic and the United States' actions were aggression which should be unconditionally condemned by the United Nations. It was intolerable that the legitimate rights of China in the United Nations had not been restored. The United States must withdraw their military forces from the region; then hostilities would cease and peace would be restored.

*Germany.* A four-Power conference 'would make possible in 1955 all-German elections with the aim of reunifying Germany'. The rejection of the Paris agreements by west Germany could lead to 'achievement of an appropriate agreement between the four Powers'. Reunion would become impossible after the remilitarization of west Germany.

*Austria.* The Austrian problem could not be considered outside the German problem. The remilitarization of west Germany carried the danger of a new *Anschluss* which must be prevented. An early solution to this might be found at a four-Power conference during 1955. Britain

**U.S.S.R. (continued)**

and France should agree that Austria should not enter any military bloc erected against the countries which fought Germany in the last war or permit foreign troops on her territory. Austria should take part in a four-Power conference since the Paris agreements were a danger to her independence.

*Atomic and Hydrogen Weapons.* The Soviet Union was on equal terms with the United States on atomic weapons. 'With respect to hydrogen weapons, the United States and not the Soviet Union is among those who are lagging behind.' The western statesmen and military leaders who were calling for an atomic war were seen by people of the world as 'candidates for new war criminals'. Peoples in capitalist and colonial countries should 'take the cause of peace into their own hands'. The Soviet Union stood for the lessening of international tension whereas the aggressive character of United States policy was evident.

*Paris Agreements.* The Soviet Union adhered to the Yalta and Potsdam agreements. But the Paris agreements meant the rebirth of German militarism which was a crude violation of the Anglo-Soviet and Franco-Soviet treaties. After their ratification a new situation would be created leading to a great increase of tension. The Soviet Union had to take this into account and would 'defend her Socialist State'. The capitalist Powers would do well not to forget the power of the Soviet Union. The Communist countries would be compelled to take measures to guarantee their defence. If the Paris agreements were ratified the Communists would 'answer with a further consolidation of our ranks and a further strengthening of our defence capacity and mutual co-operation'. The eight Communist States would create a united command of military forces.

*U.S.-Soviet Relations.* Improvement of Soviet-American relations was 'fully possible', but to achieve this aim the American Government's efforts were as important as those of the Soviet Government.

*Other Countries.* Mr Molotov expressed satisfaction with relations with Finland. Relations with Norway were marred by Norwegian membership of N.A.T.O. In spite of Soviet efforts to improve Soviet-Turkish relations, Turkey continued to allow foreign troops on her soil. Relations with Persia had improved, but foreign pressure continued with the aim of drawing Persia into a military alliance in the Middle East. Relations with all the Arab countries of the Middle East had improved except with Iraq. The Soviet Union had established direct contacts with the Japanese Government on the normalization of relations and expected good results. Relations with Yugoslavia had greatly improved 'but all is not done yet. To no small extent this depends on Yugoslavia'. Yugoslavia had to some extent retreated from the position she took immediately after the war; but this was an internal affair of Yugoslavia.

**9 Feb.—Ministerial Appointments.** The Supreme Soviet approved the appointment of Marshal Zhukov as Defence Minister and the appointment of Mr Malenkov as Vice-Premier and Minister of Power Stations in place of Mr Alexei Pavlenko,

**Marshal Bulganin's Speech.** In his first speech to the Supreme Soviet as Prime Minister, Marshal Bulganin laid great stress on the importance of heavy industry, saying that it was the basis of the national economy and of the improvement of the people's conditions, and claiming that it had developed by three and a half times since the war. He declared the Government's complete support for the Chinese People's Republic in the Formosa dispute, and expressed astonishment that the United Nations had not condemned the United States' aggressive action or demanded the immediate withdrawal of U.S. armed forces from Formosa and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Chinese People's Republic. He accused the western Powers of basing their policy on positions of strength while the Soviet Union stood for negotiations and relations leading to a reduction of tension. He also denounced German rearmament, called for a reduction of armaments and an end to the arms race, and said that international relations must be based on the principles of equality, non-interference, non-aggression, and respect for the integrity and sovereignty of other nations. In regard to domestic policy he emphasized the importance of the Communist Party's measures for agriculture and complained of serious shortcomings in labour productivity which was behind the five-year plan schedule. He also complained that the cost of the Government apparatus was too high and said bureaucracy must be ended.

**Marshal Koniev's Speech.** Marshal Koniev, speaking for the Army, strongly attacked western imperialist policy and emphasized the military strength of the Soviet forces. He declared that any enemy which attacked the Soviet Union would be crushed and that anti-Soviet threats showed a complete lack of realism.

**Foreign Policy Declaration.** The Supreme Soviet unanimously adopted a declaration which, after referring to the dangerous policy of German militarism and to 'the danger of Europe becoming the arena of a new war which would inevitably become a world war', called for an end to the arms race, the reduction of armaments under international control, and the ensurance of peaceful co-existence on the basis of the principles of equality, non-interference, non-aggression, and respect for territorial integrity, sovereignty, and national independence. It also suggested exchanges of parliamentary delegations.

**10 Feb.**—The appointments were announced of eight new Ministers (all to industrial ministries).

**11 Feb.—Dismissal of Judges.** Moscow Radio announced the dismissal of six judges of the Supreme Court and the appointment of seven in their place. The changes were effected under a decree of 7 February signed by Marshal Voroshilov, President of the Union, and had been approved by the Supreme Soviet.

**12 Feb.—U.S.-Soviet Relations.** Marshal Bulganin, Prime Minister, said in an interview with United States journalists that the Russian Government's desire for good normal relations with the United States was 'quite sincere' and was in no way affected by the recent shift of power in the Soviet hierarchy.

**Formosa.** Moscow Radio announced that the Soviet Government

**U.S.S.R. (continued)**

had proposed that Russia, Britain, and India should convene a conference to which the People's Republic of China, the United States, France, Burma, Indonesia, and Ceylon should also be invited to discuss the question of Formosa.

**14 Feb.—China.** Marshal Bulganin, Prime Minister, speaking at a diplomatic reception in Moscow, promised that Soviet aid for Communist China would be 'forthcoming whenever necessary'.

British comment on Soviet proposal for conference on Formosa (*see Great Britain*).

**YUGOSLAVIA. 5 Feb.**—Meeting between President Tito and Colonel Nasser (*see Egypt*).

**7 Feb.**—Mr Djilas and Mr Dedijer delivered a petition to President Tito, seeking permission to found a new political party based on Socialist principles.

**11 Feb.**—Marshal Tito returned from his visit to India and Burma. He reiterated that Yugoslavia would continue a policy of peaceful co-operation outside any *bloc*.

**13 Feb.**—President Tito, speaking in Belgrade, said that if Yugoslavia's relations with Russia and other countries of the eastern *bloc* improved from day to day, there was no ground for fear that she would abandon her friendly ties with the West. On the contrary, efforts to strengthen them would be continued.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- „ 26-28 Malta General Election.
- „ 27 Japanese Elections.
- „ 28 Balkan Pact, Foreign Ministers' Annual Meeting, Ankara.
- Mar. 13-18 Carribean Federation Conference, Trinidad.
- „ 29 U.N. Economic and Social Council, New York.
- Apr. 17 Cambodian Elections.
- May I.C.F.T.U., 4th World Congress, Vienna.
- „ 10 World Health Organization Assembly, Mexico.
- Aug. 8 (probably) Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, Geneva.

## INDEX FOR VOL. 10

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